## From North Carolina.

An official report to the U.S. Navy Department of the recent attack of the Confederate ram upon the Federal gunboats off Plymouth, states that the Southfield and Bombshell were sunk by the ram, and that the Ceres was damaged by a shot which passed through her port gangway, killing two and wounding seven men. A number of officers and men of the Southfield are missing, and some are supposed to have been captured. The Miami, which is now represented to have been uninjured, together with the Whitehead and Ceres, retreated to the mouth of the river, leaving the detence of Plymouth in the hands of the garrison stationed there.

Dispatches to the New York papers, from Newbern, on the 20th, state that the ram had command of the approach to Plymouth, thus preventing reinforcements from reaching the Federal forces there. General Wessel is said to have sixty days' provisions, and had expressed a determination to hold out until relieved, and had repulsed four desperate assaults, but it is added, that firing ceased on Tuesday morning, and it was inferred that the Federal forces, estimated at from 600 to 2,000, had surrendered. Firing was heard on Tuesday in the direction of Washington, N. C. and it was supposed that the Confederates had attacked that place. The ram, it is also said, has all the inland waters of North Carolina opened to her, and where she may strike the next blow, was not known.

General Peck ordered reinforcements to be sent to Plymouth, but they doubtless failed to reach that place, owing to the presence of the ram at the mouth of the Roanoke river.

Gen. Pickett, it is stated, is in command of the Confederate forces operating against Plymouth.

An attack on Newbern is anticipated form a Confederate force at Kinston in connection with a ram also at Kinston. The dispatches say:-"Many women and children are leaving Newbern for Beaufort. The firemen and citizens are ordered to be in readiness at a moment's notice to meet the enemy."

After the speech of General Blair, in the U. S. House of Representatives, on Saturday, following the report of the select committee of the House, exonerating him from the charges reproduced by Mr. McClung, which had before been known to be based upon forgeries, several members of the House and other personal friends repaired to Galt & Bro's. establishment, and purchased a sword with solid sil ver scabbard, belt sash and spurs, costing in all five hundred dollars, which were presented to the General at his lodgings.

Gen. Butler publishes a letter in which he denies having threatened to resign. He says: -"I have written no such letter; it is not the kind of letter I am accustomed to write.-There has been no shadow of occasion for it. -All and more of the consideration to which I am entitled, has been shown me by the Government in relation to my command."

A conspiracy is said to have been discovered in New York, to murder John Anderson, dry goods merchant, of the firm of Davis & Rhodes. Two men are under arrest, confess ing that they were hired by a dry goods merchant for the purpose. The latter is also un der arrest.

On the 7th of April a fire took place at Gonaives, Hayti, destroying property estimated to be worth \$3,000,000. The fire originated from the spark of a cigar falling into a pile of loose cotton just gone to press.

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oct 21-tf

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